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Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 00928 280634Z
ACTION NASA-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 FCC-01 OES-07 CCO-00
CIAE-00 OTPE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06 USIA-06
COME-00 BIB-01 /049 W
----------073443 290813Z /20
R 271926Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0921

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: ETEL, INTELAT, TSPA, VE
SUBJECT: INTELSAT CONSIDERATION OF SHUTTLE AND ARIANE

REF: A) STATE 019854 B) CARACAS 0552

1. EMBASSY DISCUSSED MATTER WITH GERARDO GONZALEZ-BLANCO, CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS, NATIONAL TELEPHONE COMPANY CANTV, WHO WILL BE THE VENEZUELAN DELEGATE AT THE FORTHCOMING INTELSAT MEETI NG.

2. GONZALEZ-BLANCO STATED THAT THERE IS NO DOUBT IN HIS MIND THAT THE SPACE SHUTTLE WOULD PROVIDE MORE SAFETY, RELIABILITY AND ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES OVER ARIANE. GONZALEZ-BLANCO VOLUNTEERED THE INFORMATION THAT THERE ARE CERTAIN CIRCLES WITHIN GOV AND ESPECIALLY IN THE OPPOSITION WHICH ARE DEMANDING A LESSENING OF TECHNOLOGICAL DEPENDENCE ON THE U.S. GONZALEZ-BLANCO FEELS, HOWEVER, AND ADDED THAT THE MAJORITY OF OFFICIALS AT THE DECISION-MAKING LEVEL FEEL LIKEWISE, THAT TECHNOLOGICAL DEPENDENCE IS PROFITABLE AND BENEFICIAL BASED ON TECHNOLOGICAL PROGRESS. HE LEFT NO DOUBT THAT HE WOULD VOTE FOR THE
SHUTTLE AS LAUNCH VEHICLE, BUT OF COURSE WILL HAVE TO FOLLOW INSTR- UCTIONS ISSUED BY THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.. THE EMBASSY
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BELIEVES AMBASSADOR TIRADO IS ALSO CONVINCED BUT WE DO NOT KNOW THE RESULT OF THE POLICY REVIEW REFERRED TO IN REF. B).

3. INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH, GONZALEZ-BLANCO HAS A LARGE MODEL OF THEARIANE ON HIS DESK, WHICH HE LAUGHLINGLY DESCRIBED AS FIFTEEN YEARS BEHIND THE TIMES.

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4. REGARDING REF. A), GONZALEZ-BLANCO STILL NOT SURE WHEN HE WILL
DEPART. WE WILL TRY TO PIN DOWN NEXT WEEK.
VAKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SATELLITES, MEETINGS, MEETING DELEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: N/A
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTELSAT CONSIDERATION OF SHUTTLE AND ARIANE
TAGS: ETEL, TSPA, VE, INTELAT
To: STATE
Type: TE
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